(c) whether the film industry of the country depends on the finance provided by the underworld;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) Whether the Government propose to set-up a separate agency to provide finance to the film industry; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S.JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) to (d) The Central Government do not have any information in this regard.

(e) and (f) The National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) has been set up for the purpose of financing and promoting good cinema and promoting the integrated development of the Indian film industry. NFDC offers finance to the film industry in the form of film finance, co-production of films,co-production with Doordarshan and finance for theatres.

[Translation]

Local Branch of SAIL Duped by Private Company

283. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that a private Company has duped the local branch of SAIL in Ghaziabad; and

(b) if so, the amount involved therein and the action taken by the Government against the said Company for doing so and to recover this amount ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) and (b) Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) has informed Ministry of Steel about one of its customers, to whom steel materials were supplied, having defrauded its Branch at Ghaziabad (U.P.) to the tune of over Rs. 2 crores in the recent past.

In order to recover the amount due to SAIL from the Company, SAIL has taken a number of steps including lodging of an FIR with local police, approaching the relevant bank alongwith the police to freeze all accounts maintained by the various Directors of the Company, initiating criminal proceedings under Negotiable Instruments Act against the dishonoured cheques and filing of Civil Suit for granting injuction order restraining the Company, their agents and servants from disposing of the properties etc.

[English]

Development of Sabarmati Railway Station

284. SHRI VIJAY PATEL :
SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have examined the issue of overcrowding of the Ahmedabad railway station;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any plan to develop Sabarmati railway station to ease the congestion at Ahmedabad station;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the other alternative arrangements planned by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) There is no overcrowding at Ahmedabad station at present.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Adequate terminal facilities are available at Ahmedabad railway station to cater to the present level of traffic.

[Translation]

Black Marketing of Free Rail Coupons

285. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:
SHRI RAMSAGAR :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any incident of black marketing of free railway coupons of Members of Parliament/Members of Legislative Assembly have come to the notice of the Government through print media in the recent past ;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government made any investigation in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) whether any person has been arrested in this regard; and

(f) if so, the action taken against him ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes,Sir. The news was published in Rashtriya Sahara on 10.9.97 and Dainik Jagran on 11.9.97.

(b) A private person was purchasing railway tickets in bulk by exchanging Rail Travel Coupons (RTCs) meant for existing/ex. MLAs of Bihar Legislature. The person was also selling RTCs on concessional rates.

(c) Yes, Sir. The suspect was caught red-handed while selling TRCs worth Rs.30,000/- to a decoy on cash